

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0034] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0034] Examples of materials for the carrier 40 can include semi-rigid synthetic or natural materials, metals or non-metals, with one example being composed of 301 stainless spring steel, full-hard, 0.3 mm thick (~~approximately 0.002-mm to 0.005 mm~~ 0.2 mm to 0.5 mm, or even wider ranges of thicknesses may be used in given applications). Lower hardnesses of steel or other metals can of course also be used if a reduction in spring force is desired in a particular application. However, such softer materials may, over time, exhibit a decrease in recovery performance during unloading conditions, such as those resulting from relative movement between the mating members. Other metals or metal alloys may also have application in the present invention, such as hardened carbon steel, inconel, titanium, or still others known to those skilled in the art.